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AUTHOR Cellerino, M. B.
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ABSTRACT

A program in which community volunteers act as "mentors" for gifted children by conducting independent study projects is described. Working individually with students, mentors supplement the resource room teacher's direction by providing personal support as well as guidance in the use of research techniques and facilities. Other volunteer services are outlined, including teaching a mini-course, assisting classroom teachers, and typing children's work. (LP)

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Guiding the Gifted

Mentor~Volunteer Program

Regional School District #10

Cheryl Kloczko — Burlington
Margaret Cellerino — Harwinton

Written by: M.B. Cellerino

EC 165 135

THE MENTOR PROGRAM

THE STUDENT

When pursuing an Independent Study the student will be expected to.....

*ESTABLISH GOALS AND OBJECTIVES

To narrow the topic and focus on a specific problem

*DETERMINE DIRECTION

To decide how to begin the investigation

*LOCATE RELATED RESOURCES

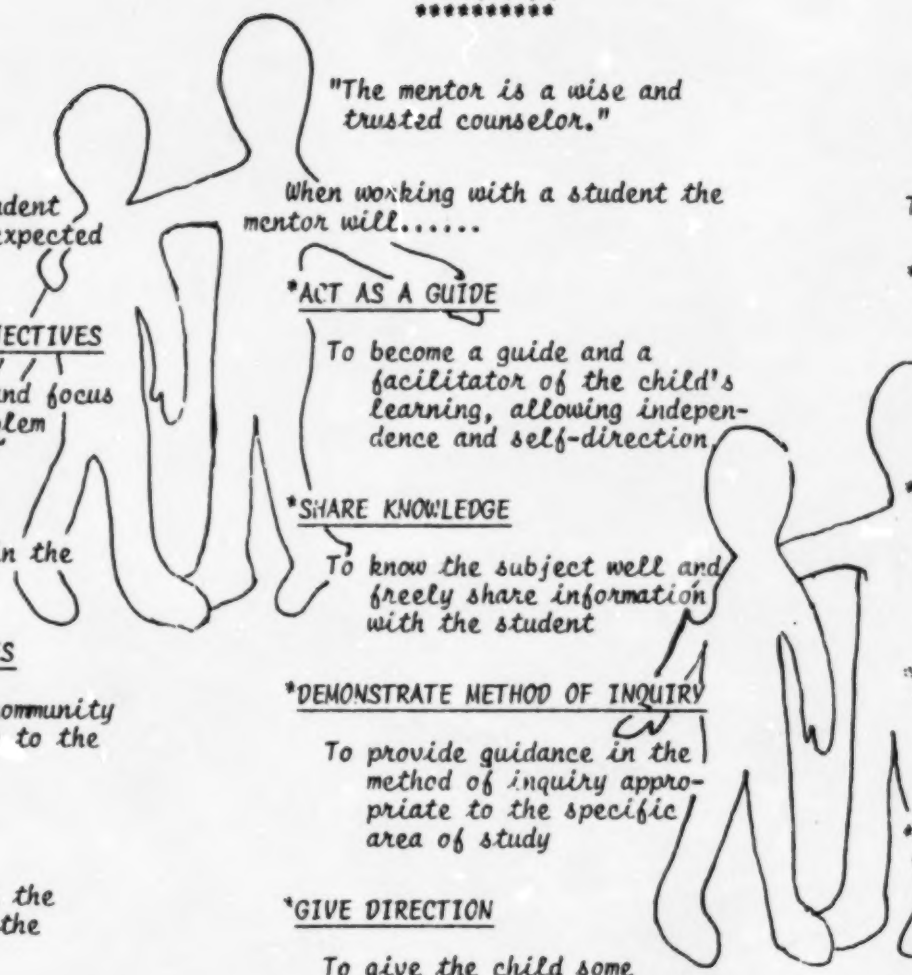
To find library and community resources relating to the topic

*PLAN A TIME LINE

To specifically state the length of time of the investigation

*CREATE A FINAL PRODUCT

To determine the form of the final product



THE MENTOR

"The mentor is a wise and trusted counselor."

When working with a student the mentor will.....

*ACT AS A GUIDE

To become a guide and a facilitator of the child's learning, allowing independence and self-direction

*SHARE KNOWLEDGE

To know the subject well and freely share information with the student

*DEMONSTRATE METHOD OF INQUIRY

To provide guidance in the method of inquiry appropriate to the specific area of study

*GIVE DIRECTION

To give the child some direction in locating relevant resources

*PROVIDE CONTINUED SUPPORT

To be committed to the student and provide guidance as long as needed

THE RESOURCE ROOM TEACHER

The Resource Room Teacher will...

*ACQUAINT MENTOR WITH PROGRAM

To acquaint the mentor with program goals and objectives and the nature of an Independent Study

*KNOW STUDENT'S TOPIC

To be familiar with the student's study and to give assistance when needed

*COORDINATE EFFORTS

To act as a liaison between the mentor and the student

*GUIDE STUDENT IN PLANNING STUDY

To help the student develop a management plan

*PLAN SCHEDULE

To arrange the student-mentor schedule

*Copyright Pending

MENTOR-VOLUNTEER SEARCH FORM

Name: _____ Phone: _____

Address: _____

I would be willing to:

____ Type Children's Work
____ Assist in the TAG Room
____ Be Involved in the Parent Support Group
____ Provide a Type I Enrichment Experience Topic: _____
____ Teach a Type II Mini-course Topic: _____
____ Be a Type III Mentor Topic: _____

THE VOLUNTEER PROGRAM

In addition to being a mentor, there are other ways to become involved in our TAG Program. You may wish to.....

*Teach a Mini-Course for a specified period of time. You would instruct a group of children in your area of expertise.

*Provide an Enrichment Experience for a small group of TAG students by sharing with them your career, interest or hobby.

*Join our Parent Support Group and serve on one of our four committees:
- Legislative Action
- TAG Newsletter
- Volunteer Coordination
- Enrichment.

*Assist the TAG Teacher in the classroom by working with students and performing miscellaneous tasks.

*Type Children's Work or other material.

We wholeheartedly welcome you in any capacity that you wish to serve. If you are interested, please complete the Mentor Volunteer Search Form, detach and return it to your child's TAG Teacher.

Thank you for your support!